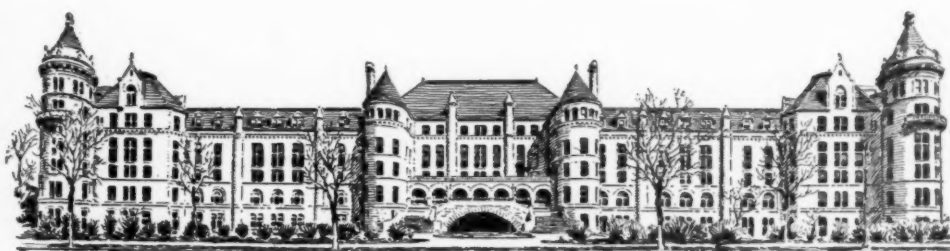


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THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY was established in 1869 to promote the Natural Sciences and to diffuse a general knowledge of them among the people, and it is in cordial coöperation with all similar institutions throughout the world. Since the Museum authorities are dependent upon private subscriptions and the dues from the members for procuring needed additions to the collections and for carrying on explorations in America and other parts of the world, the attention of persons interested in such matters is called to the brief statement of deeds and needs on the fourth page of the cover of the Supplement.

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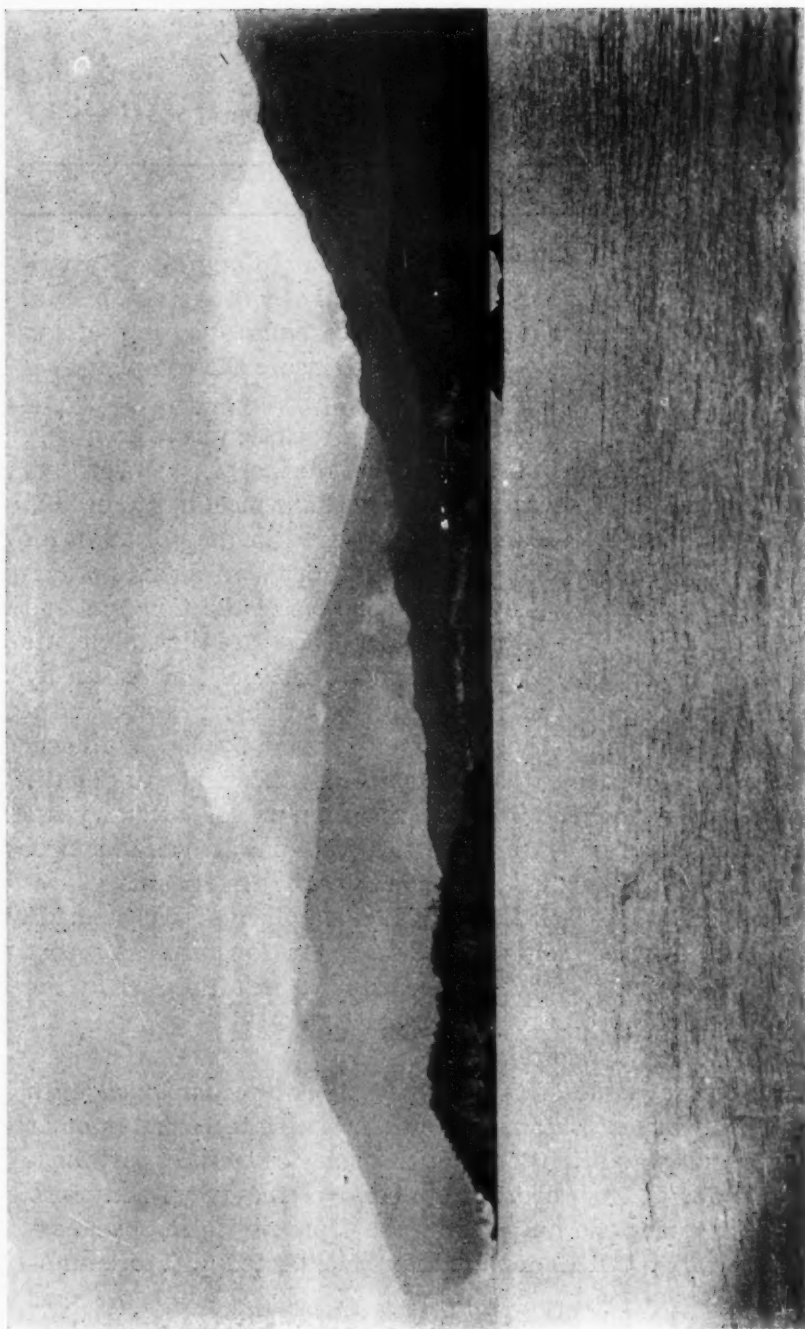
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No. 7.



THE sessions of the International Congress of Americanists are to be held in the halls of the Museum October 20 to 25, inclusive, and elaborate preparations have been made to insure the complete success of the convention, especially since this will be the first time that the meetings of this association have been held in the United States. A brief history of the inception and growth of the Congress and an extended notice of the meetings to be held this month in the Museum were published in the JOURNAL for March last. The present number contains two articles which will be of especial interest to the members of the Congress and to others interested in anthropology. These are the statements regarding the extensive ethnological work being carried on by the Museum, under the supervision of Professor Boas, and a summary account of the recent expedition by Dr. Hrdlička, which lasted seven months and continued the field work of the investigations which he has been carrying on for several years among the Indian tribes of the Southwestern States and Mexico. Investigations of particular moment to the Americanists have been carried on in Mexico by Mr. M. H. Saville and will be made the subject of special communications to the Congress. A report of the proceedings of the Congress may be expected in the December number of the JOURNAL.

The present issue of the JOURNAL is not accompanied by a supplement, but it contains more than double the usual number of pages and in addition to the anthropological articles just mentioned is devoted to reports from some of the expeditions sent out by or under the auspices of the Museum during the past summer season. Other reports may be expected in future numbers.



LA SOUFRIÈRE, ST. VINCENT.
From photograph by E. O. Hovey, taken May 24, 1902.

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A VISIT TO MARTINIQUE AND ST. VINCENT AFTER THE GREAT ERUPTIONS OF MAY AND JUNE, 1902.



WHEN, early in May, the news came that the supposedly extinct volcanoes of Mt. Pelée, on the island of Martinique, and of La Soufrière, on the island of St. Vincent, had suddenly burst into violent eruption, destroying thousands of human lives and millions of dollars' worth of property, Mr. Morris K. Jesup, President of the American Museum of Natural History, perceived the scientific value of the opportunity thus offered for the study of vulcanology, and it was decided immediately to send the writer to the islands as the representative of the Museum to investigate the phenomena of the eruptions. I left New York on the United States cruiser *Dixie* May 14, and arrived in Martinique May 21. At this time two days were devoted to the study of St. Pierre and its desolation, and then I went on with the *Dixie* to St. Vincent. A man-of-war is a part of the country to which she belongs, so that I felt as if my home-land were going away from me, when the *Dixie* sailed from Kingstown May 29, leaving me to continue my investigations there before returning to Martinique. I wish here to express my appreciation of the hospitality of Captain R. M. Berry, U. S. N., and other officers of the cruiser.

Nearly three weeks were devoted to the study of the Soufrière on St. Vincent, excursions and investigations being made from both sides of the island, and my work was greatly facilitated by Mr. F. W. Griffith, government clerk, acting under general instructions from Sir Robert Llewellyn, C. M. G., Governor of the colony, and by T. M. MacDonald, Esq., of Wallilabou, and James E. Richards, Esq., of Kingstown. My colleagues, Dr. T. A. Jaggar, Jr., and Mr. George Carroll Curtis, and I, accompanied by Mr. MacDonald, were the first persons to attempt the ascent of the Soufrière after the great eruptions. We accomplished our task on a perfect day, May 31, and were well rewarded for our effort and risk. We found the crater to be a vast pit about nine-tenths of a mile wide and 2400 feet deep below the highest point



MT. PELÉE AND THE RUINS OF ST. PIERRE, MARTINIQUE. PLACE BERTIN IN THE FOREGROUND.
From photograph by E. O. Hovey, taken June 14, 1902.

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of the rim. The old crater lake, for which the volcano had been famous before the eruption, had disappeared, of course, but a small boiling lake had formed in the bottom of the great cauldron, since the last outburst. Ever since the great eruption of 1812, La Soufrière had had two craters in its top, a small one having been formed at that time just outside the large old pit on its northeast side. Did this, so-called, "New" crater participate in the May eruptions? This important question was decided June 9 when I stood upon its edge in company with Mr. Curtis and a negro guide. The condition of the interior, of the saddle between it and the large crater and of the rim itself showed that the small, or 1812, crater had felt no sympathy with the large crater in the eruption of May of the present year. This eruption had returned to the outlet made use of in the eruptions of 1718 and before.

After an all too short stay upon St. Vincent, Mr. Curtis and I left on June 10 for Martinique. On our way north we chartered in St. Lucia a sloop of eleven tons register, which we kept with us during our stay near the scene of action of Mt. Pelée. We passed through St. Pierre several times and traversed the adjoining hills, or "mornes," and the slopes of the volcano in several directions. Four times (June 18, 20, 24 and 26) we stood upon the rim of the great active crater and looked upon a scene of wild and terrifying grandeur within and without the throat and gorge from which had issued the steam, gases, dust and stones that carried death and destruction to the beautiful city of St. Pierre and its inhabitants, lying in a *cul-de-sac* in the path of the volcanic tornado-blast, as helpless as an animal in a trap. We were the first to ascend the mountain from the west since the eruptions began on May 8, and we followed the plateau and ridge between the Sèche and Blanche rivers on June 24 and 26. Our days were not devoid of exciting and even dangerous experiences, but discussion of such features must be left to another time.

The devastation wrought by the eruption cannot be appreciated from a verbal description, and even photographs do not convey an adequate idea of what has happened, unless one is



"BREAD-CRUST" VOLCANIC BOMB FROM MT. PELÉE
The specimen is 2 feet 2 inches in height

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familiar with the rank vegetation which clothed the slopes of these mountains with tropical verdure before the eruptions took place. Ejecta in the shape of dust and lapilli (= volcanic sand and gravel) were scattered all over the islands and distributed over a very wide area beyond, but the "area of devastation" may be considered to be confined to the limits within which buildings were destroyed and crops ruined for the time being. Plotting these areas on the British Admiralty charts as well as possible without actual surveys and then measuring the areas with a planimeter, I find that about 46 square miles, practically one-third, of the island of St. Vincent, and about 32 square miles, one-twelfth, of the island of Martinique were laid waste by the material thrown out by the volcanoes between May 5 and July 6. Within a few months the tropical rains will have washed the coating of ashes from a large portion of these areas and vegetation will hide the ruin wrought by the eruptions; while, unless the activity continues severe, a very few years will suffice to restore the islands to their former verdure. Over much of the devastated district on each island the roots of the grass and other vegetation were not killed and even before my departure from Martinique, July 6, the hillsides overlooking St. Pierre were becoming green and the grass was asserting itself much nearer to the centre of destruction. I found uninjured grass roots within ten feet of the very rim of the crater. But nothing can restore life to the 30,000 human beings swept out of existence on Martinique and to the 1350 persons destroyed on St. Vincent. The sugar factories will be long in rebuilding, especially upon St. Vincent, whence prosperity departed years ago and where the people have been impoverished by a series of hurricanes and by the decline in the price of sugar.

The material thrown out by both volcanoes contains fragments of the old surface rocks of the islands as well as fresh lava brought up from the earth's interior by the present activity. The proportion of old lavas in the ejecta of La Soufrière seems to be greater than it is in the ejecta of Mt. Pelée, though the largest blocks have been thrown out by the latter. A monster of this kind lies upon the plateau between the Sèche and Blanche rivers not

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more than 200 yards from the site of Guérin sugar works—the first notable victim of the fury of Pelée. This block is about 22 feet high, 30 feet long and 24 feet broad, and the day I photographed it (June 25) it was still very hot. It may have been thrown out during the great eruption of June 6. More interesting, however, than the “ejected blocks” are the “bread-crust bombs.” The former were cast out of the crater in a heated, but not molten condition, while the latter are masses of lava which were thrown out of the volcanoes in a melted or partly solidified condition. The bombs are glassy in structure but contain porphyritic crystals, the interior being porous in texture, while the exterior is solid. The solid exterior in cooling contracted and formed gaping cracks in every direction, the result giving an appearance like the crust on a loaf of bread, hence the name. I brought several of these bread-crust bombs to the Museum from each volcano, and a choice specimen 26 inches across, from Mt. Pelée is now on exhibition. The bombs thrown out by Pelée were of all sizes, from those weighing a few ounces up to one about 15 feet long which we found on the eastern rim of the crater. There had been no *stream* of lava yet from either volcano in this series of eruptions, up to the time of my leaving the islands.

The activity of La Soufrière seems to have been concentrated in two violent efforts resulting in the eruptions of May 7 and 18, when more material was thrown out than had been ejected from Mt. Pelée up to the time of my departure. After May 18 La Soufrière became less and less active (though a severe earthquake was reported from Kingstown, St. Vincent, July 17), until late in August, when activity increased and there were terrible eruptions August 30 and September 3. Mt. Pelée, however, has had many severe outbursts since the memorable 8th of May, and even as I pen these words cable dispatches relate some of the particulars of great eruptions which took place in the last days of August and early in September. These outbursts are reported to have been greater than any of their predecessors, and Morne Rouge is said to have been destroyed August 30. I spent four nights at this beautiful village in June

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and could see no reason then for its escape from destruction by the eruptions.

It seems as if Pelée were following the history of the 1883 eruption of Krakatoa, which began vigorously in May and culminated in a grand explosion in the latter part of August which partly destroyed its island. Mt. Pelée's great outbursts this year have been on an ascending scale of magnitude, though decreasing in frequency, but it is not wise to attempt to predict what will happen before the volcano becomes quiet again.

A preliminary report upon the writer's observations during his stay upon the islands is in press and will be issued soon as a part of the Museum *Bulletin*. This report will be illustrated with maps of both islands and many photographs, most of which are from negatives taken by the writer. The recent great outbursts, however, have made further important changes on the islands, necessitating additional studies before a final report can be prepared.

EDMUND OTIS HOVEY.

RECENT ETHNOLOGICAL WORK OF THE MUSEUM.



FOR many years the ethnological collections of the Museum have been housed temporarily in various halls. The completion of the southwest corner of the building has made it possible to advance the permanent installation materially. For a number of years the collections from the North Pacific coast of America have been on exhibition on the ground floor of the north wing. When the west wing and the southwest corner building were erected, the ground floor of each was allotted to ethnological collections.

Two points of view seemed most important in planning for the development of these collections. On the one hand, the principal aim of an ethnological exhibit had to be borne in mind. This is to illustrate the various forms of human culture, bringing home the fundamental unity of the human mind, and showing how its achievements depend upon history and environment.

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To accomplish this, representative collections from all the races of man are required. On the other hand, in an American museum, the achievements and the history of the American race are naturally of prime interest, so that it has seemed desirable to treat problems relating to America, and particularly North America, with special care. The efforts of the Museum have been in these two directions, and have been carried forward since 1895 under the supervision of Prof. Franz Boas.

On account of the rapid disappearance of ancient customs among the North American Indians, and the importance of preserving all we can of what pertains to the natives of our own country, work on this continent was taken up first. The field is so vast, however, that concentration on certain lines seemed necessary. One of the least explored fields in American ethnology is found in California and Oregon. Through the liberality of the late C. P. Huntington and of the late Henry Villard, the Museum was enabled to start this work, which was intrusted to Professor Livingston Farrand and Dr. Roland B. Dixon. Later, the funds for continuing the work in this region were provided by Mr. Archer M. Huntington and by Mrs. Arabella Huntington. This work is still in progress.

The efforts of the American Museum in behalf of Californian ethnology have had the effect of stimulating the University of California to like endeavor. Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst has provided funds for ethnological work, which has been placed in charge of Dr. A. L. Kroeber, who was a valued collaborator of the American Museum of Natural History. Through the co-operation of Messrs. Dixon and Kroeber, and co-ordination of their work our knowledge of the tribes of California has been much advanced, and the Museum is now in possession of considerable collections from the northern part of that State. The work in Oregon also is still in progress. Professor Farrand, during the first year of his field work, devoted himself to the study of the coast tribes, while at present he is investigating the Sahaptin.

Another task which has seemed of great importance is the investigation of the decorative art of the North American Indian. This work has been carried on particularly by Dr. Kroeber and

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Dr. Clark Wissler. Dr. Kroeber made this the most important part of an investigation of the Arapaho, the funds for which were provided through the liberality of Mrs. Morris K. Jesup. During the present year, the inquiry is being continued by Dr. Wissler, among the Dakota. Through the work of these collectors and the special attention paid by other investigators to the same problem, the Museum possesses an unrivalled collection, illustrating diverse forms of primitive art. Besides the collections from the Arapaho and the Dakota, such collections from Mexico, California, the North Pacific coast, the interior of British Columbia, and from the Amur River are on exhibition.

Two other important investigations have been taken up by the Museum—one, a study of the Shoshone tribes, which has been intrusted to Mr. H. St. Clair, 2nd; and the other, the study of the Algonquin tribes, which is in the hands of Mr. William Jones. These two investigations are being carried on jointly by the Museum and the Bureau of American Ethnology. The student who tries to understand the customs of a people must study their language, if his work is to be thorough. It is therefore of great advantage when linguistic and ethnological work can be done together. The Bureau of Ethnology is making linguistic researches, and therefore co-operation between the Bureau and the Museum is highly advantageous to science. The ethnological work of Messrs. Jones and St. Clair is done for the Museum, while their linguistic researches, largely based on records of tribal traditions, belong to the Bureau of Ethnology. During the present year, Mr. Jones is continuing his studies of the Sauk and Fox, while Mr. St. Clair is spending the greater part of the summer among the Comanche. He is also going to make a brief tour of all the Shoshonian tribes with a view of laying out the work for the coming years. Mr. Jones's work is intended to cover, in course of time, other Algonquin tribes.

Investigations are being carried on also among the Salish tribes of Washington and British Columbia. Some of these tribes had been studied before, in connection with the work of the Jesup North Pacific expedition, because knowledge of their culture is required for a clear understanding of the culture of the

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North Pacific coast. Other tribes of this stock live far to the east and south, and their culture is more closely related to that of the tribes east of the Rocky Mountains. Researches among them are being carried on by Mr. James Teit, who already has done much excellent work for the Museum.

During the present year, work has also been taken up among the northern Athabascans, who up to the present time have been practically unknown. Collections and inquiries among the eastern Eskimo, in Hudson Bay and Baffin Land, which were begun several years ago, are still in progress.

Much work has been done toward the formation of an exhibit of the types of man found in aboriginal America. The collections that have been made consist of skulls, skeletons, photographs and plaster casts. Great weight has been laid particularly on the last feature, because this seems the only feasible method of permanently preserving the vanishing type of the American natives. Collections of types from the North Pacific coast, California, Dakota, Smith Sound, New York, Mexico, the Southwest, Siberia and Japan are in the Museum. A special report of work in this line, done by Dr. Hrdlička, will be found on another page of this number of the JOURNAL.

The field work of the Jesup North Pacific expedition, which has occupied a large share of the attention of the Department for several years, will be finished during the present summer. The object of the expedition was a thorough exploration of the tribes of the North Pacific coast, both in Asia and America, with a view of determining the complex history of this area and the early relations between the tribes of Asia and America. The collections of this expedition, in which twelve scientists have taken part, are very exhaustive, and cover the whole area from the Columbia river in America to the Amur river in Asia. In April last Mr. Waldemar Jochelson completed his difficult journey from Gishiga, on the Sea of Okhotsk, to Yakutsk. His reports were received in August. He writes "Our journey from Gishiga to Verchne-Kolymsk, occupied 56 days. We left Gishiga Aug. 15 and reached Verchne-Kolymsk Oct. 9, 1901. This was the most difficult journey I have ever undertaken. The trail as far

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as the Stanovoy Mountains, was tolerable, but further west, swamps, rivers, mountain-passes, and almost impassable thickets made progress very difficult. On the upper course of the Korkodon we had to rest our horses. The cold became more intense day by day. In order to reach Verchne-Kolymsk before the closing of the rivers, I left my Yakut guides to follow with the pack train and started on a raft down the Korkodon, to reach the uppermost village of the Yukagheer. There I hoped to meet boats that I had previously ordered. This journey by raft occupied nine days. The river is very rapid, full of driftwood, and the descent was full of dangers. I stayed among the Yukagheer of the Korkodon for four days, in order to collect specimens and information. Then we continued our hurried journey by boat. On Oct. 7, when we were still 45 versts away from Verchne-Kolymsk, the river froze up, and we had to continue our journey on foot. On Oct. 21, when the weather had become somewhat settled, we visited the winter quarters of the natives, who live about 70 versts from Verchne-Kolymsk, and staid with them until Nov. 17. During this time I made a collection of ethnological specimens, photographs, masks in plaster of Paris and anthropometric measurements, and added to the information collected on my first expedition. I proceeded next to Nishne-Kolymsk where I studied the Yukagheer of that district. This work occupied the time until Feb. 15, 1902." After his return from this district, Mr. Jochelson turned his attention to the study of the Yakut, among which tribe he made a considerable collection.

The work of the Jesup expedition has contributed much to the Asiatic collections of the Museum, which have been made largely with respect to their bearing upon problems of American ethnology. In adding to the general collections of the Department, the same point of view has been adhered to throughout. It has seemed best to develop first those collections which have an immediate practical and scientific interest for America, while scientific considerations have led us to develop the Siberian collection. The culture of Siberia has been much influenced by China, which is occupying a more and more important place in

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the affairs of the world. For this reason a start has been made with the establishment of a Chinese department. The funds for this important enterprise were given by a friend of the Museum and the work has been placed in charge of Dr. Berthold Laufer, who had previously done work on the Amur river for the Jesup expedition. The object of his work is to make a collection illustrating the popular forms of the industrial, social and religious life of the Chinese, and to elucidate by a few selected collections the historical development and far-reaching influence of Chinese culture.

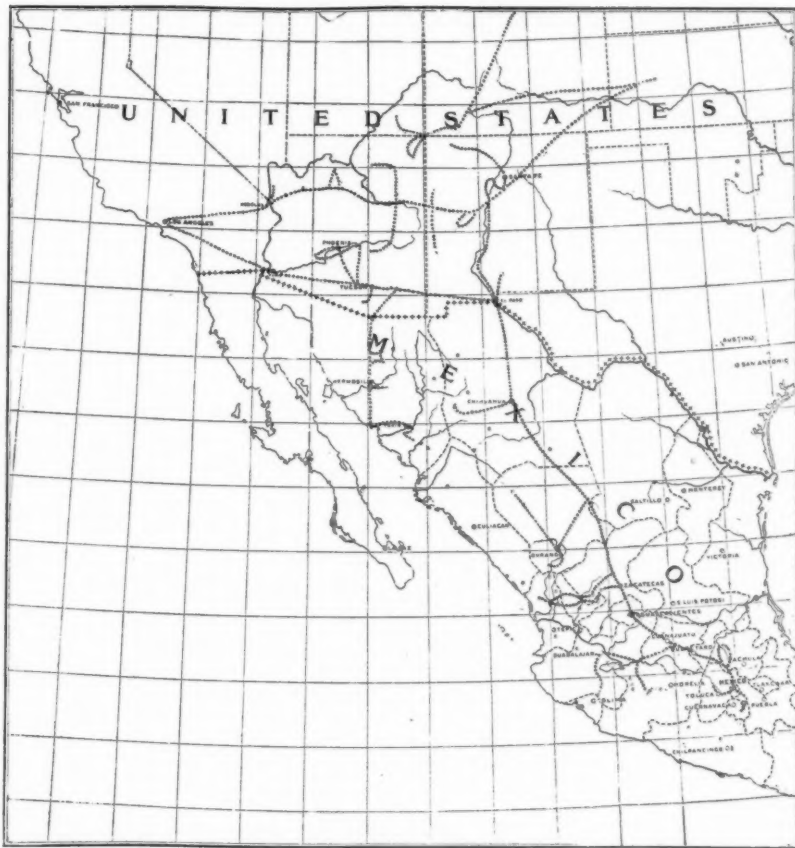
The comprehensive plan that has been pursued in the development of the Department has made it necessary for a number of years to elapse before a somewhat systematic exhibit could be made and for wide gaps to exist in many directions. At the same time, however, the method pursued has made it possible to make each exhibit a unit which has a definite scientific and educational significance. The scientific publications of the Department have kept pace with the building up of the collections and publications and collections illustrate each other.

The general location of these ethnological collections in the Museum is as follows: The ground floor in the north wing contains material from the North Pacific coast; the west wing, collections from the Arctic coast of America and from the Plains; the southwest corner, those from Siberia. On the second floor of the west wing are the ethnological collections from the Southwest and from Mexico. In the gallery of the southwest corner, those from China, Japan, Polynesia and Africa.

ETHNOLOGICAL WORK IN THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.



R. A. HRDLÍČKA recently returned, after a little more than seven months' absence, from a successful trip to the southwestern United States and northern Mexico. This expedition, the fourth of the series devoted to the physical anthropology of the regions mentioned, has been referred to in Vol. II, No. 1, of the JOURNAL.



MAP SHOWING THE ROUTES FOLLOWED BY DR. HRDLICKA IN HIS INVESTIGATIONS
AMONG THE INDIANS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

All these expeditions, whose main object was the acquisition of a knowledge of the physical features of the present as well as of the ancient Indian populations over the territory covered before the advent of whites by the Cliff-Dwellers, Pueblos and branches of the Nahuas (among which are the Aztecs), were carried on by Dr. Hrdlička, under the supervision of Prof. F. W. Putnam, for the American Museum, the means being very generously furnished by Mr. Fred. E. Hyde, Jr.

The territory covered by the investigations is the most extensive ever covered in similar work by one observer. It extends

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uninterruptedly from southern Utah and Colorado in the United States to the State of Morelos in Mexico. The Indian tribes which to-day inhabit this region, and all of which, with the exception of the Seris,¹ have been visited and examined on the four expeditions, are as follows:

UNITED STATES:

Southern Utah.....	Pah-Utes.
Southern Colorado.....	{ Utes. Jicarilla Apaches.
New Mexico.....	{ Navahos: Rio Grande Pueblos { Taos. San Juan. Jemez. San Felipe. Cia. Isleta. Southwestern Pueblos { Laguna. Acoma. Zuñi. Mescalero Apaches Hopi Pueblos. White Mountain and San Carlos Apaches. Mohaves, eastern and western. Suppais. Hualapais. Papagos. Pimas. Maricopas. Yumas (mostly in California).
Arizona.....	

MEXICO:

Sonora.....	{ Opatas. Yaquis. Mayos. Seris.
Chihuahua.....	Tarahumares.
Durango.....	Tepehuanes.
Tepic.....	Coras.
Jalisco.....	{ Huichols. Tepecanos. Nahuas (Tuxpan).
Hidalgo.....	Otomis.
Mexico.....	Mazahuas.
Michoacan.....	Tarascos.
Morelos.....	Aztecs.

¹ A small, dangerous tribe living on Tiburon island in the Gulf of California. The data obtained on the Seris are restricted to measurements of one complete skeleton, two skulls and one living individual.

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The material obtained on the four expeditions comprises measurements of and observations on nearly 3000 individuals, over 1500 photographs, about 300 skulls and skeletons, 120 facial casts and about 3000 ethnological and archaeological specimens. The skulls and skeletons gathered are mostly those of extinct tribes, and will furnish important measurements and observations for comparison with those of the present Indians of the region. Moreover, besides showing the racial characteristics, the bones are of value in showing the relative frequency of fractures and various pathological conditions,—matters which are of special interest to members of the medical profession. The specimens and casts will in time be placed on exhibition.

The data obtained will be elaborated by Dr. Hrdlička, and will appear in the publications of the Museum. A somewhat detailed report of the work will be read before the Congress of Americanists, which will meet at the American Museum this month. The accumulated data should, especially in connection with similar and contemporaneous work done by Professor Starr in southern Mexico and under Professor Boas along the northwestern coast, add materially to our knowledge of the physical status of the American aborigines.

Some of the specimens secured on this year's expedition deserve special mention. Among the skulls there are eleven of Otomis; an ancient, well-preserved male cranium from the ruins of Tula (the supposed Toltec capital); and twelve skulls of the Yaquis. Eleven of the last-named were obtained, with some ethnological specimens, from the recent Yaqui-Mexican battlefield in the Sierra of Mazatlan, in Soñora, and one is that of an executed and then half-cremated Yaqui prisoner from the Yaqui river. Among the ethnological specimens there is a series of interesting objects from the sacred cave of the Huichol Indians (Jalisco), some exceptionally well woven Yaqui baskets, two fine examples of old Nahua beadwork, two rare Mayo blankets, a collection of the native food-stuffs of the Hualapais, etc. Among the photographs the most prized are those of the Yaquis, with views of their country, including several picturesque Mexican fortified posts or barracks.

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The success of the several expeditions of Dr. Hrdlička is due in no small degree to the kind and efficient assistance he received from the authorities both of the United States and of Mexico, for which the Museum takes this occasion to express grateful acknowledgment. Through the courtesy of the authorities of the Mexican National Museum, Dr. Hrdlička was enabled to examine the valuable craniological collection in that institution. A word of grateful appreciation is due also to the officers of the railroads utilized, and particularly to those of the Santa Fé and the Mexican Central, for their aid to the expedition.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

AUTUMN COURSE OF LECTURES TO TEACHERS.

BY PROFESSOR ALBERT S. BICKMORE.

October 18 and 25.—The Swiss Alps.

November 1 and 8.—The French Alps.

November 15 and 22.—Historic Towns of Central France.

November 29 and December 6.—Historic Towns of Southern France and the French Riviera.

NEWS NOTES.



URING the past three months there have been some notable additions to the gems and gem material comprised in the Morgan gift. The most striking of these are the large blocks of Amethyst crystals which were found in a recently discovered grotto in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. These have been installed on the tops of the cases on the west side of the Gem room. One of the most precious single objects among the additions is a ceremonial axe-hammer of Agate which was once the property of Cardinal Borgia and which bears ancient inscriptions. The new series of Ceylon Sapphires is highly prized. It contains two blue and yellow stones weighing 21 carats each,

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a yellow gem of 100 carats and a wonderful blue Star-Sapphire weighing 541 carats which for generations was an heirloom in the family of a Nabob of the island. Besides these there should be mentioned a Rubellite, or pink Tourmaline, of 40 carats, from Madagascar, a 57-carat yellowish-green Beryl from Ceylon and an Amethyst weighing 142 carats from the Ural Mountains. The last possesses the rather unusual property of scintillating in a strong light.

THE mineral collection has been enriched by the acquisition of a specimen of Enargite — a compound of copper with sulphur and arsenic — which surpasses any specimen of the species heretofore in the Museum. It was found in Montana.

IN August the Department of Conchology received a collection of very handsome shells belonging to the group of Cypræas. The series was obtained by the late Mrs. Marie A. Witthaus, and represents the result of years of painstaking selection. It is remarkable for the perfection of the individual specimens. The collection has been presented to the Museum by Dr. R. A. Witthaus.

A MAHOGANY log which has been completely honeycombed by the Teredo shell has been put on exhibition in the Shell hall.

THE Department of Vertebrate Palæontology has received several valuable specimens and casts during the past summer from foreign museums in exchange for American fossils. The British Museum has sent a finely preserved skeleton of a Plesiosaur or "Great Sea-Lizard," along with other specimens found at the rich fossil-quarry near Peterborough, England. The Plesiosaurs form a group of extinct marine reptiles, whose long neck and tail and short massive trunk with four flippers have suggested the rather apt comparison of the animal to "a snake threaded through the body of a turtle." Representatives of the group are rare in our western fossil-fields, and this specimen is the first acquired by the American Museum.

A skull of the Woolly Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros tichorhinus*)

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and a cast of the skull of the Elasmothere (*Elasmotherium sibiricum*) another extinct Rhinoceros of gigantic size and peculiar aspect have been received from the University of Moscow; and the skull of a third large extinct Rhinoceros from Europe (*Rhinoceros pachygnathus*) has come from Munich University.

The three specimens will add much to the value of our series of skulls of extinct Rhinoceroses, which already represents the majority of the species known, and is far more nearly complete than that of any other museum.

A large series of casts of limbs and feet of Dinosaurs, or Giant Reptiles, from the Triassic formation of Germany, has been received from the University of Tübingen. Dinosaurs from this very ancient formation are extremely rare in America; all of those in the Museum collections come from later formations.

PROFESSOR BICKMORE, who has been spending the summer in England and on the Continent, has just returned to the Museum. He attended the meetings and took part in the conferences of the Nature Study convention in London, in July, where the Department of Public Instruction of this Museum made an exhibit of photographs and stereopticon slides illustrating its methods of "visual instruction."

DR. HRDLIČKA has returned to the southwestern States and northern Mexico to make supplementary studies upon the Indian tribes of that region among whom he already has spent so much time.

THE Linnæan Society of New York will hold its regular meetings in the small lecture hall of the Museum on Tuesday evenings, October 14 and 28. The first evening will be devoted to reports from members regarding their summer work, while the second evening will be occupied by a talk by Frank M. Chapman on "Bird Studies with a Camera in 1902," illustrated by means of lantern slides. The public is cordially invited to attend these meetings.

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The American Museum Journal

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